

From: George C Robinson

To: The Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Re: H.B.5653 OPPOSITION

Distinguished Members of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee,

My name is George Robinson, I am writing because I was unable to attend the hearing in person and would like to voice my overwhelming **opposition** to H.B. 5653.

I would like to start by saying that I oppose this bill because it would create a hardship for law-abiding Connecticut firearms enthusiasts like myself wishing to hone their shooting skills at the range, ensuring that they are able to defend their loved ones, themselves or people in need with confidence in a situation where defending them is warranted.

H.B.5653 would create a situation that would require legally responsible gun owners to pay to exercise their 2nd Amendment rights, and those that were unable to pay would be left to those that ignore common decency and the laws of the land.

H.B. 5653 would levy a tax on ammunition that is already taxed several times at the federal and state level. In this manner it appears to align itself with a "sin tax" that gives the government more *control* over what people can and can't do by incorrectly labeling ammunition as immoral. It's actually ironic that the men who wrote the Constitution - that we owe our very freedom to - faced a similar conundrum in 1773 when the British levied an unfair tax on tea, and we all know how that turned out.

In Closing, H.B.5653 is designed to place unfair burdens on gun owners to further punish those that follow the draconian laws in Connecticut and do nothing to address the high crime rates in places like Hartford and New Haven. It's time to start punishing those that ignore the laws of this state, not those who obey them. You should note that this law will have no influence on criminal activity, it will only hurt those that follow it.

Respectfully yours,

George C Robinson

Plainfield, Ct.